

Sinclair  
Broadcasting's  
decision to require  
their stations to  
air an anti-Kerry  
documentary days  
before the election  
is a clear example  
of the dangers of  
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the  
public airwaves free  
of charge, and is  
obligated by law to  
serve the public  
interest. But when  
large companies  
control the  
airwaves, we get  
more of what's good  
for the bottom line  
and less of what we  
need for our  
democracy. Instead  
of something  
produced at "News  
Central" far away,  
it's more important  
that we see real  
people from our own  
communities and more  
substantive news  
about issues that  
matter.

Sinclair's actions  
show why we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. This is  
the type of misuse  
of the airwaves that  
happens when we  
allow the  
consolidation of  
ownership. We need  
to have greater  
control of the  
monopolistic  
ventures by all  
segments of  
corporate America.  
This is especially  
true of the media,  
which can influence  
a mass audience with  
misinformation and  
out and out lies.  
They show why the  
license renewal  
process needs to  
involve more than a  
returned postcard.

Thank you.

Wray N. Haydock